

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 21, 2001

LB 677A, 772

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 2192.) The vote is 45 ayes, 0 nays, 1 present and not voting, 3 excused and not voting, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 677A passes. Madam Clerk, LB 772.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to return LB 772 for a specific amendment. (AM2131, Legislative Journal page 2192.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your motion for a specific amendment return.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, the purpose of this amendment is to first we have to return the bill if you're going to agree with what will be discussed. It's to create a supplemental retirement plan for legislative employees. It was decided that the form of the amendment would have to be one of striking the original contents from the bill and replacing them with this amendment. Otherwise, we'd have two subjects in the bill which would violate the constitution. Cosponsors of the bill, some of them, are also cosponsors of this amendment. I've talked about it with Senator Wickersham so he knows what I'm going to do even though I'm sure he probably would rather that I didn't. But he's able to speak for himself. A sheet was handed out and it goes into a rationale for the bill. The first paragraph mentions why we ought to have this plan. The second talks about the turnover rate of employees for the Legislature. The third and the fourth talk about the role of benefits in persuading people to take employment and to hold to it. There is some information that was provided by Buck Consultants which discusses deficiencies in the current state retirement plan. Then the last paragraph on the first page before you get to the indented material points out the efforts made by presenting this attempt to the Retirement Committee with no results. The indented material consists of seven points that will lay out the consequences and ramifications associated with being an employee of the Legislature. If you go to the second page, you will see the first paragraph above the additional indented material that